

HOW TO GROW WORLD'S BEST DAHLIAS.

BY

SMITH'S GARDEN & GREENHOUSES, MANCHESTER, KANSAS.

THE first and most important thing to do, is to purchase reliable stock. Not all dahlia tubers are the same size or shape, however, all first grade roots must be firm or plump, with part of the last year stem thereon, so as to contain that which produces the sprout for the plant on which the flowers grow.

THE second most important thing to do, is to have the soil in which the tubers are planted well prepared at least two weeks or one month ahead of planting time, and if the soil is not already enriched with organic matter, it must be aided by the incorporation of a liberal amount of cow manure or other well decomposed animal manure (with the exception of rabbit or poultry manure). Any other well decayed matter like leaves, straw or hay may be used, and this must be well mixed in the soil to the depth of 10 or 12 inches.

THE third next important thing to do, is to select the place for the planting plot, which should have full sunshine the greatest part of the day, as far away from trees and shrubs as possible, however if some shade is necessary, the afternoon is much better sunshine than that of morning sunshine. ALSO do not plant nearer to houses or other building than ten feet.

PLANTING TIME varies from early March in the south to early May and mid July, (all of June) in the north part of the United States. The important thing to remember that the ground must be warm for all dahlias to begin to sprout and grow rapidly after planting.

WHEN PLANTING-dig the holes at least eight inches deep, and lay the tuber flat at all times with the old stem part near a stake that is placed near the hole at time of digging, to which the stems of the growing plants must be tied as they continue to grow tall. It is best to have the stem-end of the tuber placed nearest to the stake. (If stakes are not placed at planting time, the tubers may be damaged at a latter time)

AFTER PLACING the tuber in the hole cover with no more than two or three inches of soft soil, then as they start growing finish pulling soil to the plant until there is a slight mound around the growing plant. (If planted any deeper than three inches the sun may fail to induce the new growth and the tuber may rot)

THE FIRST leaves on the new plant are the false leaves, the next to come are known as the true leaves, then after the plant has put out three or four set of true leaves, (these true leaves come in pairs) pinch-out the entire top of the plant, leaving at least three sets of true leaves on the plant, which will put out six or more stems to the growing plant that will produce the buds and flowers.

TO PRODUCE larger flowers do not give any other pick-out to these stems, but if a great number of flowers is desired, give each new stem another pick after they have grown three or four sets of leaves. To grow large blooms the first picking is the best thing to do.

AFTER THE STEMS begin to develop buds remove as the small side buds and leave only the center or larger buds to each stem, and each stem should be tied to the stake one or more times, as they continue to grow to prevent the wind and rain breaking them off or blowing all to the ground.

DAHLIAS are great feeders and require plenty of moisture, which must be supplied by watering if the rainfall is not sufficient, this must be supplied with watering each week or every 10 days, and with the moisture all dahlia require the three basic elements of nitrogen, phosphorus and potash which should be worked in and around the plants every ten days, which should be done either before the rain or the supplying of additional watering. The water should reach down at least eight or ten inches into the soil.

IT IS ADVISABLE to work one-half cupful of bone meal into each hole when planting the tubers. Remember that an over supply of Nitrogen is detrimental to the proper growth of fine flowers, so use a fertilizer like 5-10-10 for best results to supply them with their needed aid while growing, and discontinue after the buds begin to form.

\$1.00 DAHLIA GROUP.

All dahlias in this group \$1.00 each or 12 for \$10.00.
With every order of dahlias amounting to \$5.00 or more we will include one of these dahlias FREE, but such will be of our own selection.

ARTHUR GODFREY*(FD) A beautiful Orient red with orange or buff shading, with blooms a foot wide.
AUTUMN BLAZE-(ID) A striking fiery red with gold shadings.
CHEROKEE BEAUTY-(FD) A clear begonia pink and a vigorous grower.
COVER GIRL-(FD) Mauve violet with generous white tips.
CROYDEN'S MASTERPIECE -(ID) A very large coppery orange red.
FIVE STAR GENERAL-(FD) Several shades of pink blended maize yellow.
LAVERGRO-(Dec) A very deep lavender, almost purple.
MARY ELIZABETH-(SC) Dinner plate size dark turkey red blooms.
NIGHT EDITOR-(ID) One of the finest purple dahlias grown.
ORANGE MAJESTY-(ID) A fine large clear orange color.
PREMIER'S WINSOME-(ID) A large tree blooming light mellow pink.
ROYAL ROBE-(ID) Mallow rose splashed with spectrum red.
TIARA-(FD) An orange peach tipped white bi-color.
TIDAL WAVE (QUINN'S)-(ID) A very large broad petal yellow.
TOPS-(Dec) Another large fine deep yellow dahlia. NEW1960.

6 WORLD'S BEST DAHLIAS, labeled \$3.50 postpaid or 12 with \$1.00 DAHLIA FREE. Our selection ONLY. 5.00

KANSAS GROWN No.1 GLADIOLUS BULBS. KANSAS GROWN. No.1

We have 10 named varieties, as given below, in a mixture 5¢ each where any variety is wanted labeled True-To-Name the price is 10¢ each or 2 for 15¢ or 4 for 25¢ when this number is of one Variety. These Gladiolus bulbs is not shipped postpaid unless your entire order amounts to \$5.00. (Dahlia & Gladiolus bulbs maybe mixed so as to make the order \$5.00, otherwise please include 50¢ extra for postage.

ALL KANSAS ORDER MUST INCLUDE THE 2½ ¢ SALES TAX ON EVERY ORDER. Both for Dahlias and other stock.

Clarence D. Fortman, Beautiful blush-pink, heavily ruffled.
Elmer's Rose. Deep Rose, heavily ruffled with 20-bud spikes.
Jo Wagenaar. Deep orange red or carmine-red.
Lavender Prince. A beautiful deep lavender.
Orange Gold. A beautiful large orange flower.
Sans Souci. A large and tall rich scarlet, and keeps well cut.
The Rajah. Ruffled reddish purple, which withstands the sun.
Traveler. Light rose pink with a deep rose spot in throat.
White Goddess. A midseason tall creamy white.
Yellow Herald. Amber-yellow with carmine in throat.

ALL No.1 BULBS

ALL No.1 BULBS

We have about 75 varieties of Hardy Chrysanthemums, which we now offer 25 well rooted plants for \$5.00, not labeled, postpaid.

We can furnish potted plants after April 1st for 50¢ each all labeled True-To-Name, but no less than 10 plant shipped postpaid. If you desire our list please write for it about March 15th.

25 different named Daylilies, labeled, \$5.00, postpaid. (Any time the soil is not frozen)

SMITH'S GARDEN & GREENHOUSES, MANCHESTER, KANSAS.

POMPON and MINIATURE DAHLIAS.

These dainty flowering Dahlias are extremely free flowering and can be grown without disbudding. Their size and gracefulness make them ideal for many uses

OUR SPECIAL PRICE 35 cents each, or 12 for \$4.00 postpaid.

ANNABELLE- A clear pink flower.
ARISTO- A free flowering clear rose-pink.
BETTY ANN An old favorite pure pink.
BRONZE BEAUTY- Bright buff, deeping to rich bronze.
CHALLENGE- Red with white tips.
INDIAN CHIEF- A full centered bright red.
LITTLE BUDDY- (Min) Bright canary yellow, and free flowering.
MARY MUNNS- A fine pure lavender.
MORNING MIST- White overlaid with rosy lavender.
ROTHROUT- A fine bright red.
SYLVIA- (Min) A free flowering fine scarlet.
YELLOW GEM- One of the finest deep yellows.
YELLOW KITTEN-(Min) A real pure yellow.

DWARF BEDDING DAHLIAS.

For garden planting and home decorations. These plants form compact bushes, seldom more than 2 feet high. They begin blooming when a foot high and flower continuously all summer. We offer a good mixture in dazzling colors. 4 for \$1.00 or 10 for \$2.25 postpaid.

Field grown Plants. HARDY PHLOX. Field grown Plants.

We have 10 different varieties, all True-To-Name 50¢ per plant. These are all of the newest sort, and include all the colors. All of which we will label as to name and colors if desired.

GIANT CANNAS-

We offer our canna bulbs in a mixture of all these varieties, 6 for \$1.00.

The President, bright red. Rosemond Cole, red with gold. Hungaria, medium pink. Smith's Seedling, bright straw and Canary.

HARDY GARDEN CHRYSANTHEMUMS-

We can supply the following varieties in field grown-clumps 50¢ each when at least 5 clumps are ordered. 50-slips from that many varieties, not labeled, \$5.00, postpaid.

ALERT-Large early purple.
BRONZE QUEEN-Golden bronze pompon.
Caliph-Tall red decorative.
DANDY-Incurved reddish bronze.
GARDENIA-White pompon.
Cristopher Columbus-Yellow with white center. Fine tall.
GOLD BUTTON-Yellow gold with orange center.
JOAN HELEN-Dark purple to crimson.
ORCHID HELEN- Rosy-violet cushion.
Minnipink- Bright rose pink cushion.
RED BIRD-Early red-bronze decorative.
VULCAN-Dark red decorative.
WHITE CLOUD-A pure white cushion.
RED GOLD-Red and gold button.
GOLDEN GOPHER-A deep cadmium orange pompon.
WHITE CUSHION. RED CUSHION. ROUGE CUSHION. YELLOW CUSHION.

MANY OTHERS IN COLLECTION ONLY.

12 clumps for \$5.00 labeled, postpaid.

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Dahlia Price List
[1962]

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~~SMITH'S DAHLIA~~ GARDEN
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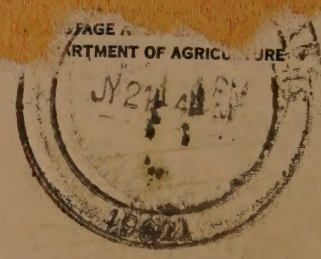
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